



**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

Department of Transportation  
Two Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02903

Office 401-222-2481  
Fax 401-222-2086  
[www.dot.ri.gov](http://www.dot.ri.gov)

September 29, 2015

Carlos C. Machado  
Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
380 Westminister Mall, Rm 547  
Providence RI 02903

Dear Administrator Machado:

I wanted to give you an update on our progress in responding to your letter of May 22, 2015.

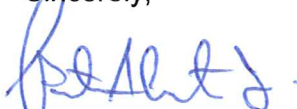
As you know, RIDOT is pursuing legislative action to enable the Department to establish a toll on combined unit trucks at bridge locations throughout the state for the purposes of reconstructing those bridges.

In your letter of May 22, 2015, FHWA posed several questions regarding the tolling proposal. Many of your questions relate to the location of the bridges to be tolled. While we have a working scenario that is financially viable, we will continue to refine the locations as results of our level II study begin to come in. Those results are expected within the next two weeks.

So that we could finalize the locations, it would be helpful if you could provide the answer to whether RIDOT could consider using overhead bridges in locating the tolling facilities. While we have developed suitable solutions that use only undergrade bridges, we are finding in our studies that we would have a greater degree of flexibility in our solution to optimize the tolling if we were able to use overhead bridges as well. RIDOT's rationale for tolling combined unit trucks that go under these overhead bridges is that the overhead bridges were originally constructed solely for the benefit of and efficient travel of the interstate highway that crosses under it.

We have many overhead bridges that are also in need of reconstruction and the ability to toll those facilities would provide a more cost-effective means of funding the bridge reconstruction program.

Sincerely,



Peter Alviti, Jr., PE